NCC Minutes 11/07/06 Public hearing to authorize funds for the purchase of an easement on the Cole Property

Open Meeting: 7:00 p.m.

Present: A. Watts, B. Byrne, R. Konisky, L. Carroll, D. Mason, alt. S. Shope, Sel. J. McBride Smith

This meeting was a public hearing to discuss and approve funds for the purchase of a conservation easement on approximately 70 acres of land near Bald Hill Road, currently owned by the Ruth B Cole 2005 Trust. The Seacoast Land Trust will own the property, and the Town of Newfields will hold the easement. There was some discussion of the costs: The total cost of the transaction will be \$777,000. The Farm and Ranchland Protection Program will pay \$320,000, The Town will pay \$130,000 plus closing costs, and the Land Trust will pay the remainder. The house and 2 acres were sold separately, and are not part of this transaction. The Town funds will come from current use fees.

- J. Smith asked about whether Mr. Daley's easement allows him to forbid public access. There was some discussion, but the question could not be resolved without reviewing a copy of the easement.
- D. Mason volunteered to attend the Capitol Improvement Meeting later in the week.

Watts motioned that the Conservation Commission, in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 authorize the expenditure of up to \$135,000 for the purchase of easements on the property on Bald Hill road currently owned by the Ruth B Cole Trust. L. Carroll seconded, all in favor YES. No additional members of the public attended.

Adjourn 7:20 p.m.

NCC member A. Watts 11/07/06